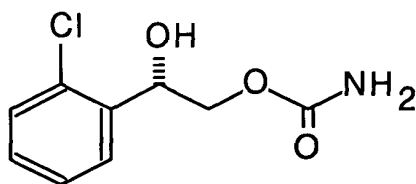


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A pharmaceutical composition for the administration of an anticonvulsive agent to the nasal mucosal membranes of a mammal in a rate-controlled manner of absorption comprising said anticonvulsant and an aqueous vehicle comprising from about 30-60% by volume of an aliphatic alcohol having from 1 to 5 carbon atoms, from about 30-60% by volume of a glycol selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol 200, polyethylene glycol 300, polyethylene glycol 400, and polyethylene glycol 600, about 0.1-5% by weight of a biological surfactant selected from bile salts and lecithins and about 10% by volume of water.

2. A pharmaceutical composition in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said anticonvulsive agent is selected from the group consisting of diazepam, clonazepam, lorazepam, phenytoin, mephethotoin, phenobarbital, mephobarbital, primidone, carbamazepine, ethosuximide, valproic acid, trimethadione, gabapentin, lamotrigine, felbamate, γ -vinyl GABA, and acetazolamide.

3. A pharmaceutical composition in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said anticonvulsive agent comprises the mono-carbamate anticonvulsive agent (S)-2-carbamoyloxyl-1-o-chlorophenylethanol represented by the formula:



4. A pharmaceutical composition in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said biological surfactant is a bile salt is selected from the group consisting of sodium cholate, sodium deoxycholate, sodium glycocholate, sodium taurocholate, and sodium ursodeoxycholate.

5. A pharmaceutical composition in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said biological surfactant is a lecithin selected from the group consisting of lysophosphatidylcholine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylcholine, distearoylphosphatidylcholine, dipalmitoylphosphatidylethanolamine, and dipalmitoylphosphatidylglycerol.
6. A pharmaceutical composition in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said anticonvulsant is diazepam and said vehicle comprises about 60% by volume of said aliphatic alcohol, about 30% by volume of said glycol, about 1% by weight of said biological surfactant and about 10% by volume of water.
7. A pharmaceutical composition in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said anticonvulsant is clonazepam and said vehicle comprises about 30% by volume of said aliphatic alcohol, about 60% by volume of said glycol, about 1% by weight of said biological surfactant and about 10% by volume of water.
8. A pharmaceutical composition in accordance with Claim 1, wherein said anticonvulsant is (S)-2-carbamoyloxy-1-o-chlorophenylethanol and said vehicle comprises about 30% by volume of said aliphatic alcohol, about 60% by volume of said glycol, about 1% by weight of said biological surfactant and about 10% by volume of water.